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NOTICE.

The Trustees of the Hindoo Patriot Newspaper and Press have this day appointed Babu Radhakrishnan, Patil son of the late Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Raj Bahadur, I. E., of No. 108 Baranossy Ghose's Street, Manager of the Hindoo Patriot Press, and authorised him to sign all bills and to grant receipts under his signature as Manager for all sums remitted to him. Mufussil subscribers are requested to remit their subscriptions to him.

With the consent and by desire of the Trustees.

RAJENDRALALA MITRA.

One of the Trustees.

Calcutta, September 20th, 1884.

THE FORTNIGHT.

MONDAY, 29TH SEPTEMBER.

DURING the sittings of the British Association at Montreal it was announced that the Corporation of McGill University would confer the honorary degree of LL.D. upon several distinguished scientists, including Sir Richard Temple and Mr. W. T. Blanford, in commemoration of the meeting of the Association at Montreal. The persons selected appear to be all deserving men.

AN UP-COUNTRY paper is very smart and very severe upon the report of the Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal. Our contemporary describes that report as "the confusion of tabular statements tempered with little paragraphs of letter press" and comes to the conclusion that—"It is down-right waste of money to print such statistics. He fairly enough puts the question—"Why should a Sanitary Commissioner be obliged, be allowed, or, at any rate, feel bound to write a cumbersome report of which the value is absolutely nil?"

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE considers that "the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is not to be congratulated upon either the tone or the matter of his recent letter to the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality. Mr. Rivers Thompson appears to be under the impression that it is necessary for him to score a dialectic victory over the defaulting Municipal Commissioners, and to that object he directs his efforts with an energy which possibly does credit to him as a controversialist, but which assuredly will serve little for the promotion of a sound and wholesome sanitary policy in Calcutta. Herein, of course, he is guilty of a lamentable error. The Lieutenant-Governor's censures are severe enough in all conscience; but even if we assume that they are all of them well founded, the question still remains 'What good is to come of them?' We are not quite sure that Mr. Harrison has laid himself open to the rebuke implied in Mr. Rivers Thompson's observation that the method of argument which the unfortunate Chairman of the Municipality has employed is 'foreign to any with which Mr. Thompson is familiar,' and that he must decline to enter upon a controversy conducted on such principles. Nor—always having regard to the essential point of the dispute—can we see what practical purpose is to be served by telling the Chairman that he must not, under shelter of his position, use language which constitutes a violation of courtesy and discipline. Mr. Harrison's letter need not have given such offence to the Lieutenant-Governor, unless Mr. Rivers Thompson had been in a frame of mind peculiarly disposed to take umbrage." This will be the judgment of all disinterested people.

SIR JAMES STEPHEN, the friend of the Natives of India, is preparing an account of the trial of Nundkumar, which will, it is announced, bring to bear upon the case some information that has not been before accessible. We believe he has some political object in view in bringing out the work now.

A MADRAS telegram to the *Englishman* says:—"As the Viceroy objects to the Hon. H. S. Thomas going back to Calcutta as member of the Vice-regal Council that Councillorship is now going a-begging

here. The *Mail* says that Messrs. Garstin, White-side, and Wilson, of the Madras Civil Service, have declined to accept the honor with the condition that they must vote as instructed, and probably Mr. Maclean formerly of Salem, will go." This is the fruit of Lord Ripon's want of firmness. Had he put down the Anti-Ilbertists with a vigorous hand, there would have been no malcontents of the kind under notice. We wonder how Mr. Maclean will get up a Salem case in the Council Chamber.

TUESDAY, 30TH SEPTEMBER.

THE *ENGLISHMAN* in noticing the Railway collision which very recently took place at Aranghatta among other things says: "Natives also have been in many cases substituted for Europeans, and we understand that nearly all firemen employed on the line are now natives, whereas formerly they were chiefly Europeans. This may be considered by the authorities a very desirable method of effecting some economy in the working of the line, but it is by no means likely to conduce to the safety of the passengers or of the property of the company, and one serious accident, such as the present, where many actions may be brought for damages on account of injuries sustained, or by surviving relatives for the loss of the bread-winners of their families, is likely to prove more expensive than any trifling economies effected in the way of firemen's wages." May we ask our contemporary what number of native firemen were employed in the E. B. Railway when the collision at Shammugur took place, and why do collisions occur in England where none but the heaven-born are employed? It is not so much the firemen who are to be blamed for such mishaps as the drivers, and in this case a European was the driver. Besides, the duties assigned to firemen have little or no relation to setting a train in motion, or stopping it or running it.

A RANGOON telegram to the *Statesman* says:—"Further accounts from Mandalay confirm the report of cruel massacres there; eleven women, three being related to the Nyoungyan Prince now in Calcutta, two young Princes, a priest, and several natives of India were amongst those killed. Their bodies were mutilated, and ordered to be exposed for several days, so that the city might see what terrible punishments awaited those who offended King Theebaw." We always take Mandalay news purveyed by Rangoon writers with much reserve.

REUTER has announced that Lord Dufferin will start for India on 6th November via Trieste, and reach the Metropolis on December 1; but the forthcoming general election will decide if he is to come at all.

EXHIBITIONS seem to be the order of the day, and the world seems to be plagued with them. The Parisians are going to have a Baby show and arrangements in connection with it are being energetically pushed on. The Committee are in an uproar almost in recruiting jurymen from among doctors, scientists and artists to note the health and plastic beauty and symmetry of the babies exhibited. Up to the present a thousand competitors have been entered in the books of the Committee. The show is to be divided into the four following classes viz:—(1) Babies from twelve to eighteen months, (2) 18 months to two years, (3) from 2 years to 2½ years and (4) from 2½ years to 3 years.

THE NEMESIS is a-coming. Bombay yarns are now going to Manchester itself. A few weeks ago a few samples of yarn from the Imperial Mill were sent to Manchester, and the report and valuation were considered so satisfactory that the Directors have now despatched a small shipment to test the home market. Of course, low freight and exchange are exceptionally favourable just now, but the experiment is sufficiently audacious to command general attention. Will the old days ever return when India alone supplied England with cotton cloths.

WEDNESDAY, 1ST OCTOBER.

REGARDING the Rurki Resolution, the Simla correspondent of the *Indian Daily News* says:—"The reason of the delay in publishing the despatch about

the Rurki Resolution, is that in consequence of a difference of opinion among the members of the Executive Council as to the real meaning of some part of it—two of the members, Mr. Hope and Mr. Gibbs, not agreeing with the others on this point—and in consequence of an attempt to settle this difference by telegraph having failed—the matter has necessarily to wait another written despatch from the Secretary of State."

THE *Deccan Times*, of Secundrabad, publishes the following, with reference to the late visit of Mr. Gorst to Hyderabad:—"Mr. Gorst was not only eminent in his profession, and a man of note, but he had been engaged on several occasions by the late Sir Salar Jung, and notably by the late co-Regent in the case of libel against the *London Statesman* in which Hyderabad affairs were very much involved. It was not likely that Mr. Gorst would have come out to India unless it had been made worth his while. Men who have got to the top of their profession, have to be paid handsomely. Mr. Hawkins, in the famous Baroda case, marked £50,000 on the brief, and Mr. Ballantyne only consented to take £5,000 in consideration of a health-giving trip to India. Most of our contemporaries were considerably at sea regarding the amount of Mr. Gorst's fee. What Mr. Gorst actually got was Halli Sica Rs. 98,000, the equivalent of £7,000,—no great amount after all to one in his position. Whether value was received for the money or not is another question. What we wish to point out is that Mr. Gorst was brought out for good and sufficient reasons in the interest of the State, and that there was nothing extraordinary in the remuneration he received."

UNDER the heading "Calcutta being Europeanized," the *Lahore Church Gazette* reproduces the following from the *Bengal Methodist*:—"Calcutta is in some danger of becoming, in some parts of it, a pest-house of iniquity. It is rapidly approaching the character of the New Cut, and Rotaliffa Highway. While English papers are protesting with burning indignation about French and Belgian miscreants inveigling girls across the Channel for ruin and misery, Calcutta is rapidly filling with fresh consignments from Italy, Germany, Russia, and elsewhere. And never perhaps, was vice so brazened as in this city. A Christian man, who thinks for a moment of the true mission of England to India, is smitten half dumb as he thinks of the sights that parade themselves in open day in some of the streets, in the very centre of the town, through which he is bound sometimes to pass, and it is to be feared that the evil is finding imitators among some Bengali women in the city. The papers are crying out for interference on the part of the Municipal authorities, and we feel bound to join them. Even Native newspapers are protesting against the evil. Something may be effected, no doubt, by official measures, but can nothing be done in the way of Evangelism? We think there might." Here the question of the questionable moral life in married state crops up. Could not these poor unfortunates have found a husband at home, and if so, why did they chalk out such an ignominious path to earn an infamous livelihood? We cannot say, they wanted moral light, for as Christians, they had the advantage of Sunday sermons and moral teaching. All what we can say in matters of chastity is that "the mind is its own place, and can make a heaven of hell or hell of heaven."

THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER.

THE CINCINNATI *INQUIRER* is responsible for the following news:—"The latest thing in educational news," said a naturalist, "is the college of monkeys in London. Half a dozen evolutionists and naturalists of the very advanced school are attempting to teach monkeys to talk or express their wants. The method is at first by letter blocks. A block alphabet, in which the letters are all distinctly coloured, is arranged before the monkey student, which is first taught to select some simple word, as pie, and when he picks out the letters and forms the word he is given a piece of pie, so there is a constant incentive to learn, the prizes all being bread and butter, so to speak." "And what are the results?" asked the visitor. "They have not been divulged yet," was the reply; but one of the authors of the scheme states that

there is to be a public exhibition, when the monkeys can be heard for themselves. If a pig can be taught so many wonderful things, I see no reason why a monkey should not." The great great-grand father of Professor Darwin will then be taught to speak out his mind and perchance will in time be taught to sing when the time—honoured saying of the natives (the stone will float in water and the monkey sing &c. &c.) will be falsified by modern naturalists. It will be undoubtedly an improvement on the old world, if only the fact could be realised.

REFERRING to the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh to Dublin, the Irishman speaks of the Prince as "a fiddling fool of the Georgian race," and says, were he the child of any other sovereign we should accord Ireland's generous hospitality to friendly strangers. If his mother were a Queen who did not enforce her false claim to own our island with cold steel and red-hot shot our Irish hearts would have given him an Irish welcome. As it happens that he represents, especially as a commander of a ship that would blow us to atoms if we challenged his parent's right to rob and rule us, the deadly enemies of our race, it was our duty to show him, as an embodiment of all that Ireland abhors, England is our enemy, so must he be." A movement is on foot to expunge all traces of English conquest in Dublin by substituting Irish for English names to the streets. A motion will be brought forward in the Dublin Corporation to name the bridges after Irish kings or chieftains, and the quays after Irishmen who have fought for liberty in other lands than Ireland. The leading streets of Dublin are at present named after English statesmen.

It is stated that a Russian fleet, heavily provisioned, has left Chefoo and proceeded to Nagasaki. It is believed at Shanghai that Russia meditates another blow if China is involved in war with France. Anti-Clerical riots have taken place at Belgium in which many were injured. The Education Bill awaits the sanction of the King. The Liberals urge its veto.

AT THE Forestry Exhibition at Edinburgh India received fifty-four awards. The Indian Government obtained a first-class gold medal for the general collection of Indian exhibits, sixteen silver and seven bronze medals, twenty-four diplomas, and six certificates. Two hundred and ninety awards were given in Britain, and fifty to the British colonies, Ceylon obtaining a gold medal, second class, for J. Alexander's collection of Ceylon exhibits.

FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER.

THESE ARE indications of the renewal of an active Nationalist agitation. The Irish Press are clamouring for the dismissal of Earl Spencer and Mr. Trevelyan. The annual meeting of the Irish National League of Great Britain was held at Dublin, and the members pledged themselves to Parnell's leadership. It is understood that neither Earl Spencer nor Mr. Trevelyan will accept the responsibility of Ireland unless the Crimes Act is renewed; hence the hostility of the Nationalists.

A CORRESPONDENT at Peshawar states that some fifty families from Lughman have arrived there. They have deserted the Lughman Valley on account of the oppression to which they were subjected by Abdul Rahman, and have come to Peshawar with the idea of settling down in the neighbouring villages.

ON ONE line of tramway in Brussels, that in the Rue de la Loi, tramcars are all driven by electric motors, and so far as the experiment has gone it has proved a decided success. The Government has, therefore, directed that accounts shall be kept for one year to ascertain definitely the cost of running with electricity as compared with the use of horses; and if the result is favourable, electricity will be employed exclusively on all the tramways in the city.

WE HEAR that the orders of the Secretary of State on the scheme for the reorganisation of the Public Works Department will be issued early in October. The despatch may, therefore, be expected to reach India early in November at the latest.

THE OCTROI COMMITTEE appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal have arrived at the decision that an octroi is not a desirable tax in Calcutta, not only from the inequality of its incidence, but also from the difficulty which would attend the levy of such a tax in Calcutta. The Committee have recommended an increase in the duties on trade licences, and also a special tax on kerosine oil of two annas a case, and an increased duty on tobacco. The Government won't permit a duty on kerosine oil which it admits free, and the foreign tobacco is covered by the Resolution we quoted in our Octroi article lately.

It follows therefore that the poor man's hubbly bubble is the only taxable article which the Commission has discovered. We forget the song which denounced the Ministers who proposed to deprive the poor man of his beer, but a song like it here would be pronounced by the *Englishman* as seditious.

SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER

THE CREMATION of a Hindu corpse lately took place at Etretat in France under somewhat remarkable circumstances. The father-in-law of the brother of the Gaekwar of Baroda had accompanied his son-in-law to Europe and died of a carbuncle, rather suddenly. The friends of the deceased wishing that the remains should be cremated with Asiatic rites, asked the permission of the local mayor to allow them to do so. The mayor, greatly embarrassed at the oddity of the request, telegraphed to the authorities at Paris for instructions, who authorised him to accord his sanction to the burning of the dead body. To evade a scene, the rite was performed privately at the foot of the Etretat cliffs at 2 o'clock in the morning and continued till the day opened. It will, we hope, be interesting to our readers to know what an eye-witness has said regarding the rite which we quote below:—"The secret of the cremation had been well kept, so that not more than twenty in all were on the spot to witness it. The Prince threw the burning incense in the bowl upon the north end of the pile, which instantly caught fire, and the Indians, with raised hands, again repeated, 'Ram Ram!' Soon the whole mass was wrapped in a flame that climbed high up the cliff, brought the spectators out strongly against the dark back-ground, and lit the foamy crests of the waves.

In an hour the flames began to subside and more wood was piled on. Gradually the morning dawned upon the ceremony. The wind had blown away most of the cinders, and among those remaining only a few pieces of bone, keeping their form, could be found, and these crumbled when they were touched. What human ashes could be distinguished were gathered up, a part being thrown into the sea and the rest sealed up to be sent to India. Several fishermen had wandered down to that end of the beach during the last hour, but by six o'clock every vestige of the cremation had disappeared. When the rumour reached the awakened inhabitants and brought them in crowds to the spot, they hardly believed what was told to them, for they only saw a few blackened stones and a few loose shavings that had escaped from the burning.

PARTICULARS received from Berlin of the recent attempted assassination of Colonel Katansky at Odessa state that at noon of the 20th ultimo, a young girl, about eighteen or nineteen years old, named Maria Kaljushnia presented herself at the quarters of the Colonel, who is the chief of the Odessa gendarmerie, and asked to speak with him. She was shown into the Colonel's room, and had been with him alone for about twenty minutes when a loud detonation was heard proceeding from the room. A gendarme, named Ussatoff, and the Colonel's manservant immediately rushed in and found the Colonel standing with a still smoking revolver in his hand, which he had just snatched from the girl. It then transpired that Maria Kaljushnia, while sitting in the room, pulled the revolver suddenly out of her pocket with her handkerchief, and fired point blank at the Colonel's face. The bullet, however, only slightly grazed his ear and buried itself in the ceiling. The girl was immediately arrested and conducted to the barracks. Immediately after the attempt, General Tshelishchiff, Commandant of Odessa, Town Captain Kossagowsky, and the police Inspector, with his assistants, arrived on the scene. Kaljushnia's house was at once searched, and papers were found proving her to be a member of the revolutionary party. Numerous arrests have been made in Odessa.

RUSSIA is trying to make a capital out of the Franco-Chinese imbroglio by meddling in the affairs of the Amour territory and that lying along the Russian frontier on the ostensible pretext that the Chinese subjects there have manifested a strong desire for emancipation. We knew that Russia would not slip this golden opportunity to weaken China, and we do not wonder at this announcement from St. Petersburg.

MONDAY 6TH OCTOBER.

WE LEARN that a Christian *Mela* is to be held at Mynpoorie sometime towards the latter end of this month. It is expected that a large number of native Christians from Allahabad, Etah, Etawah, Farruckabad and other places are likely to take part in it. This is rather a novel feature in Missionary enterprise, but will it help the cause of Christianity in any way? If it should, we would simply wonder.

THE REBELLION in Arabia, appears to be exciting considerable alarm in Constantinople. A more or less turbulent disposition is generally manifested by the different tribes, but the present rebellion appears to be of a more formidable nature than any for several years past, and is extending. Yemen, is surrounded by 8,000 Arabs in revolt, and has only 2,000 troops in garrison. The Governor of Mecca, to whom orders were sent to despatch troops, replied that the disaffection among the population was too great to allow him to send a single soldier. Arrangements are being made in Constantinople to send immediately 8,000 more troops.

WE GULL the following, having reference to the re-marriage of Indian widows, from the columns of an American paper, the *Chicago Tribune*:—"An epidemic of young widows—The Brahmos, or Reformers of India, have succeeded only too well with their enterprise, it appears. For several years past they have been begging and beseeching young Hindoo widows to re-marry, if so inclined, in spite of what the priest might say as to such marriages being contrary to the *shastras*. At first this strange doctrine made no converts, but after a time two or three youthful widows made the venture, and, no ill consequences ensuing to them, plenty of others followed their example. So far the Brahmos could afford to rejoice at the work of their hands, but their season of gladness was short. For there went throughout the breadth and length of Bengal, a report that the great Brahmo Society would afford protection and maintenance to all widows desirous of re-marriage. The news speedily produced quite a rush of candidates for protection, and, according to the *Indian Messenger*, the reformers are suffering severely from an epidemic of young widows. From all points of the compass do they flock, with thoughts intent on matrimony, and the Brahmos are compelled to cry 'Hold, enough' for want of room in their house. What canard is this?"

"ROUND the World on a Bicycle" is the title of a book which may be expected before many years are over, unless an untimely spill, or some other casualty, should mar the ambition of Mr. Thomas Stevens, the young Englishman who has just crossed the American continent on his bicycle. He started from San Francisco on the 22nd of April, and reached Chicago on July 4, after a run of forty-two days from the Pacific to the Great Lakes. His time averaged fifty miles a day; his only luggage consisted of a waterproof hat, and, when crossing the Rocky Mountains, he was sometimes without food for twenty-four hours at a stretch. By this time he is probably in Europe preparing for a ride across it. He hopes to reach Constantinople by Christmas, and then devote 1885 to a run across Asia. It may interest bicyclists to know that Mr. Stevens rides a 50 inch machine. Even if he only rides across two continents, he will have done enough for fame. Asia at present and for many years to come will probably be bicycle-proof.

TUESDAY 7TH OCTOBER.

THE Allahabad paper understands that the survey of the Andamans, is to be prosecuted vigorously during the coming season, and probably will be extended to the Nicobars also. A good steamer is to be placed at the service of the field party. On the Eastern Frontier, a party is to be taken by Colonel Woodthorpe into the country of the Singphos, to the east and north of the independent Nagas and Manipur. Amongst other things, this exploration may be expected to reveal the route taken by the Burmese armies to and from Assam in the early part of the century, which is still a moot point among historians and geographers.

REGARDING the Egyptian question Mr. Labouchere writes in *Truth*:—"I have been inquiring of independent Liberals outside London what they think of the Egyptian question. They one and all regret that Mr. Gladstone ever allowed himself to be entangled into it, and they all desire that we should withdraw from the country, bag and baggage, as soon as possible. Their feeling seems to be that as Liberals we have no sort of right to impose any particular Government on the Egyptians, and that to expend the money of the British tax-payer with any such object in view, is only worthy of the Conservatives. As regards Gordon they think that it was a mistake ever to send him to Khartoum, and that as he has remained there in defiance of his instructions, it is a still greater mistake to expend men or money in aiding him. As I always thought, the feeling in favor of interference in Egypt is entirely limited to London, and to those Conservatives out of London who allow themselves to be humbugged by their leaders."

It is probable that an Assistant Inspector-General of Railway Police will shortly be appointed for the

Eastern Bengal Railway, and that Mr. F. A. Dawson, District Superintendent of Police at Bankura, will be selected.

It is spoken of at headquarters that Government will shortly convene a Commission, which will consider the advisability of introducing Technical Education in all the more important Educational Institutions in India. Nothing could be better than the step the Government is about to take. Technical education has become a necessity for India and the sooner it is introduced into our schools, the better.

WEDNESDAY 8TH OCTOBER.

It will interest many of your readers to know that the Commission lately appointed by Government to investigate the best class of inks to be employed for official purposes has just presented its report. The Commission states that aniline inks are not suited for this purpose, because they can be easily washed away, especially by preparations of chlorine. Inks in the composition of which alizarin (Adrianople red) is employed can be obliterated less easily. But it is stated by the Commission that the best of all is that made from gall nuts and recommends that it should be used for official purposes and in the writing of all documents the preservation of which is of importance. We have no faith in the permanency of the ink proposed. The tannate and gallate of iron will decompose in 50 years, be illegible in a 100, and destroy the paper in two hundred years.

THE Lahore paper gives the following items of Afghan news:—The Ameer has recently sent Mahomed Hassan Khan, brother of Akbar Khan of Lalpura, with Rs. 5,000 in cash and Khilats, to make terms with the bordering tribes—the Mohmands and others, who have lately shown signs of insubordination. Two mysterious travellers arrived at Cabul from Turkistan last month, and are known to have brought with them a large sum of money, which they duly made over to the Ameer. They have since gone back, and it is commonly believed in Cabul that they were sent by the Russians to propitiate the Ameer. Miyan Gul of Swat has recovered possession of one-half of Upper Swat, with the aid of Mahomed Sharif Khan of Dir, and is trying to seize the remaining portion. The chiefs have therefore leagued together, and have sent a message to the Ameer, representing the matter in a strong light. Umru Khan is collecting military stores. He has purchased a large quantity of percussion caps, both English and those manufactured at Mivan Kili, in the Bajour district. Mula Wali Khan and Mir Bacha have had an encounter with Mir Askar, in which altogether about 150 men were killed.

FROM A LETTER of the Bengal Secretariat to the *Englishman* regarding the accommodation of small-pox patients in the Calcutta Hospitals, we learn that the following arrangements have been come to for their admission. The Shambhunath Barrack in the compound of the General Hospital is to be converted into a special hospital for the reception of paying patients. The new hospital contains 10 private rooms, and a large common ward capable of accommodating 10 more patients if necessary. At the Campbell Hospital, Sealdah, the small-pox wards reserved for Europeans and Eurasians are in course of being altered and enlarged, and they will, before the end of the current month, contain suitable accommodation for 40 non-paying patients, besides separate rooms for confluent cases. Past experience shows that this number is not likely to be approached. No complaints have been received regarding the native small-pox wards in this hospital, and they are considered by the medical authorities to be sufficient, both in size and convenience. Small-pox patients will not, as a general rule, be admitted at the Medical College Hospital.

THURSDAY 9TH OCTOBER.

WE HEAR that the articles which lately appeared in the columns of the *Times* regarding the armies maintained by the Native States, have produced such an impression at home as is likely to introduce changes in the method of dealing with the independent principalities.

THE SIMLA Fine Arts Exhibition was far from a success this year. Not only was it very sparsely attended but the paintings and pictures exhibited were also very poor and very few.

THE BERLIN correspondent of the *Politische Correspondenz* has an interesting paragraph regarding German interests at Teheran. "The Shah of Persia exercises great influence on the Afghan Princes, and particularly on the Ameer of

Kandahar. Persia further more commands the principal road by which the Afghan and other peoples that might revolt in the territory under English or Russian dominion would receive arms and ammunition. All the Powers are therefore interested in obtaining a good footing in Persia. As to Germany, she has long been on friendly terms with the present Shah, and these amicable relations constantly tend to become closer, so that in all probability Germany's position in Persia will soon be very strong. This new manifestation of the Chancellor's clever and far seeing policy will no doubt be duly understood, particularly by England."

FRIDAY, 10TH OCTOBER.

THE AMERICANS are given to telling many amusing stories concerning their firemen; but the following is taken not from an American but a German source:—"The watchmen of the New York fire brigade (says this authority) sleep in electric beds set by the clock, which awaken the sleeper in this manner: Tow bells give the first signal for rising, while a lamp near the bed is lighted by electricity. Soon after an invisible power tears the night-cap off the sleeper's head; at the same time a spirit-lamp under a coffee machine begins to burn as a further inducement to rise. This proving fruitless, the electric bells sound again, and as a last warning a paper appears at the side of the bed with the word "up!" imprinted on it. In case of this admonition also remaining ineffective, the bed rears itself upon end and simply deposits its occupant on the floor. A specimen of an alarm bed of this kind is at present exhibited at Cassel, in Germany." Such at least is the statement of the *Frankfurter Zeitung*; and if it can be verified there will be an enormous demand for electric beds for the use of sleepy native domestics.

A CHINA paper tells us that a terrible typhoon visited Amoy on the 21st August last with disastrous results to the shipping. It says that the exact number of sampans and junks lost will never be known, but judging from the number ashore on Kulangsoo alone, and the heaps of wreckage collected by the natives, it seems that loss of life must have been immense.

THE *Temps* tells us that the English Ministry is about to put before the other European powers a scheme for the liquidation of the Egyptian indemnities and the proposal will contain the following alternative from which each power will have to choose his own terms (1) Cash payment of the sum awarded by the Commission with a reduction of 25 per cent. or (2) full payment without reduction by instalments extending over 10 years. The English Government is said to ground these proposals on an alleged disproportion between the award of the Commission and the losses suffered by the parties interested.

SATURDAY, 11TH OCTOBER.

IT HAS been suggested that each district in the Punjab should be furnished with a trained native Engineer to be subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner. But our Lahore contemporary feels rather uneasy at the suggestion and says that if the proposal is good for the centralisation policy these native Engineers should be placed under the supervision of fat-salaried Europeans, as if without their healthy superintendence the native Engineers will not be able to do their work efficiently.

DURING the week ending 4th October there were 223 deaths in all in the town of Calcutta, of which 11 were from cholera, 83 from fever, 21 from bowel complaints, 5 from accidents and the rest from other causes. The return shows an increase in the total number of deaths than in the two preceding weeks by 33 and 16 respectively and 17 in excess of the corresponding week of last year. This increase is due to a larger mortality from fevers which the late heavy rains brought on.

WE beg to acknowledge with thanks the following publications:—1. Appendix to Education Commission Report. 2. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal No. VII. 3. Trade and Navigation Accounts from April to August 1884. 4. Seven Grammars of the Dialects and Sub-dialects of the Bihari Language. By G. A. Grierson B. C. S. 5. Report on the administration of the Bali Municipality for 1883-84. 6. Supplementary Report of the Theosophical Society at Adyan 7. Theosophist for October. 8. Report on the administration of the Stamp Department for 1883-84. 9. Hindu Philosophy by R. C. Bose. 10. Some Indian Scandals No. 1. by Captain E. A. Campbell. 11. Baisaik Tatwa Part V. 12. Chikitsa Sanmilani Parts V and VI. 13. Indian Postal Guide. 14. The Harvest Field for October 1884. 15. Meteorological Observations. April 1884.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1884.

SIR RICHARD GARTH'S MINUTE ON THE BENGAL TENANCY BILL.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE of Bengal has set forth with great vigour the main objections of the opponents of the Bengal Tenancy Bill against this unjust and injudicious measure. He has mercilessly exposed the weak points of the Bill, and conclusively shown that neither the Zemindars nor the ryots would be in the least benefited by it. If it becomes law it will completely destroy the Government prestige, ruin the Zemindars, impoverish the agricultural community, and thus shatter the very foundations of Society in Bengal. The narrow-sighted policy of the so called radical reformers is fraught with ruin and disaster, and yet our legislators will persist in a course which in the opinion of the highest judicial functionary in the realm is "inconsistent with the good faith of the British nation." When the good faith of the British nation has been broken; when the Government by breaking its most solemn pledges has shown that it cannot be trusted, British prestige in India will be completely annihilated. There was a time when our countrymen firmly believed that the word of the British Sovereign once pledged was pledged for ever. It extremely pains us to say that the conduct of our present legislators affords ample reason for exciting distrust and suspicion in their professions. They disregard the most solemn pledges of their predecessors, and conjuring up fancied wrongs, and unreal rights of cultivators, are bent upon depriving the Zemindars of the rights and position which they have acquired under the Permanent Settlement. Impartial observers ask in amazement what State necessity has compelled the Government to bring in this revolutionary measure. A century of wise legislation has made the people happy and prosperous; and yet the pseudo-philanthropists of the day are trying to reduce this province to perennial misery by throwing an apple of discord among the landlords and their tenants. We have endeavoured to present the question before the Legislature in every possible point of view, and it affords us great satisfaction to see that our views are shared in by such eminent judicial authorities as the Chief Justice of Bengal. The arguments of Sir Richard Garth are unassailable, and let us vainly hope that they will have their due weight.

The Bill professes, says Sir Richard Garth, to restore the ancient and customary law of Bengal, and yet there is hardly a single particular in which that principle is adhered to. The two main proposals which had been made by the Government of Bengal to the Government of India, embodying the leading principles upon which, in the opinion of Sir Ashley Eden, the new Rent Law ought to be based were: 1stly, that the great body of cultivators should be restored to the position which they held under the ancient land law and custom of the country; and 2ndly, that the beneficial interest of the settled ryots, who formed the mass of the cultivating classes of Bengal, should be determined by authoritatively establishing renewed or revised rates on a system analogous to that of the old pargana rates. No reasonable man looking at the provisions of the present Bill would say that these principles have been adhered to with even tolerable fairness. It seems to the Chief Justice that at least three-fourths of the provisions of the Bill are entirely inconsistent with the rights, both of the cultivators and of the zemindars at the time of the Permanent Settlement. Sir Richard Garth justly says that many of the provisions of the Bill were not known or thought of in the year 1793. The philosophic doctrines of the present day by which the radical reformers of our generation are guided were not in existence in those good old times, and it is no wonder, therefore, that the revolutionary provisions of the present Bill were not dreamt of in that age. The new-fangled theories regarding socialistic rights must displace that rough-cast law which has given

Bengal its present prosperity. But let that pass.

The most remarkable feature of the present measure is that the Government is not bound in any way by the provisions of the Bill. While the Government seem to be so extremely sensitive about the so-called rights and privileges of the tenantry in estates which are not under their control, they do not show the same tenderness for the rights of ryots in those estates which are in their own hands. Sir Richard Garth pertinently asks: Now why should this be? The Government are some of the largest landlords in Bengal. They hold a vast number of estates in their own hands, which they have not been able to settle with zemindars; and they also hold a number of estates, which belong either to minors or lunatics in their character of the Court of Wards. The tenants and ryots upon those estates are entitled to as much consideration as the tenants and ryots of ordinary landlords; and if it is right to protect the latter by the stringent rules and conditions which are contained in this Bill, it seems also right to protect the former in the same way. Let us refer once again to the avowed principles upon which the Bill was originally based. The object of it was to *restore the tenantry to the position which they occupied at the time of the Permanent Settlement*. If it is just to restore the tenantry to this position on estates held by ordinary landlords, is it not equally just to restore them to that position on estates which are in the hands of Government? This question which has been put by the Chief Justice is extremely difficult to answer. We have a saying among us that self-interest has no regard for external propriety. What is law for you is not law for me. The Midnapore rent cases, which are so well known to our readers, illustrate in a remarkable way the extraordinary powers which the Government possess over their tenants and the severity with which those powers are exercised. In the Jalamuta estates in the Midnapore district, which are now under Government control the rents had been raised in very many cases to 50, 100 and 150 per cent. beyond what had been paid before; and in some instances as high as 200 and even 300 per cent. The average increase expected was about 63 per cent.; and the result was, that on one comparatively small estate the rental of about 6,000 ryots was raised from Rs. 43,000 to Rs. 73,000. It appears from the Administration Reports that the whole 75,000 ryots on the estates repudiated the settlement; and that the Government in one year issued 25,000 Collector's certificates against them, and proceeded to execution and sale. No less than 2,654 suits have been brought against the Government contesting the enhancement. Well may the zemindars ask the Government to give them the same powers which are exercised in the *Khas Mehals*. The very fact of the Government exercising those powers shows that in the opinion of our legislators the great body of cultivators did not occupy, at the time of Permanent Settlement, that position which is now claimed for them; and that the ancient landlaw and custom of the country do not give to the ryots those rights which are now demanded for them. The Chief Justice asks again:

Now here is a very remarkable history, which tells its own tale too plainly to need any comment. This same Government, which takes these large estates out of the hands of the zemindar, in order to impose upon the ryots this extraordinary enhancement, and which, for the purpose of enforcing that enhancement, passes two retrospective Acts, (Act III of 1878 and Act VIII of 1879 B.C.) which virtually render it impossible for the ryots to resist the imposition,—this same Government, I say, is endeavouring by this Bill in the case of permanently-settled zemindars and other landlords, to restrict the enhancement of rents to 25 per cent, and to allow that enhancement only on certain specified grounds, which grounds must be strictly proved by the landlords before any enhancement can be made.

Now why should this be? The tenants and ryots are surely entitled to the same rights, and to the same consideration, whether their landlord for the time being is the Government or a permanently settled zemindar, or a temporarily-settled zemindar. Government officers may make mistakes like other people; and they are probably not less likely to make

mistakes because they are unfettered by the control of the law.

For myself, I fail to see the slightest reason why the Government, when they are in the position of landlords, either by taking revenue-paying estates into their own possession, or managing the property of minors and insane persons in the character of the Court of Wards, should not be placed under the same wholesome restrictions with regard to the exercise of their powers as any other landlords.

It seems to me a most fortunate thing, in the interests of justice and of the Bengal tenantry, that the facts of this Jellamatta settlement should have been brought before the public while the Rent Law is under discussion.

I am one of those who consider that the powers of Government over their tenants should not be greater than those of other landlords.

II.

The Minute now proceeds to examine in detail the provisions of Bill which appear to Sir Richard Garth to be extremely objectionable. His remarks on the different Sections of the Bill are characterised by sound good sense, and show an intimate knowledge of the subject. While the Government are proposing to deprive landlords of a number of rights and privileges which they have hitherto possessed, conferring rights upon tenants which they have never yet enjoyed, and changing the status and relations which these different classes of agriculturists are to occupy in the future, the Bill does not define the various kinds of tenancies; even the very definitions of a tenure-holder, and 'a ryot' are vague, misleading, and inaccurate. Considering that the new law would have the effect of readjusting the whole system of agrarian holdings, it would seem to all right minded men that the great aim which the Legislature ought to have in view is to prevent, as far as possible, confusion and uncertainty in the future. When confusion and uncertainty are the leading characteristics of the Bill, it is vain to expect the Select Committee on the Bill, to give clear and accurate definitions.

The Minute gives a short review of the history of the occupancy right question since the amendment of the Rent Law was first proposed in 1879:

By the present law a ryot can only earn his occupancy right by renting his land for 12 successive years. The Committee of 1879 recommended an alteration of this rule; and by the Bill which was prepared by the Government of Bengal, it was proposed that a 3 years' occupation instead of 12, should be sufficient to acquire the right. I believe that the Government of India were in favour of a still shorter period. But be this as may be, the Secretary of State in Council, after much consideration determined that the 12 years' rule should be adhered to. The Government of India were dissatisfied with that decision, and begged the Secretary of State to reconsider it. But notwithstanding this protest the Secretary of State would not alter his decision. Accordingly, by the amended Bill which was framed in the year 1883, the 12 years' rule was re-enacted. But by the same Bill the penalty imposed upon a landlord for ejecting a non-occupancy ryot was made so cruelly severe, that it virtually would have given all ryots the occupancy right, and so have neutralized the decision of the Secretary of State. This was pointed out very forcibly by several gentlemen, who were consulted upon the Bill, and the penalty clause was consequently withdrawn.

Now again, the 12 years' rule is re-enacted. But there is a sub-section which neutralises the 12 years' rule as the penalty clause which was withdrawn. That sub-section provides that *instead of a ryot acquiring his occupancy right by a 12 years' occupation of his land, the law is to presume that he has acquired it*, and the presumption is to be made under such circumstances that in the great majority of cases it will be practically impossible for any landlord to rebut it. The effect of this will be to place landlords in an infinitely worse position than if the proposed 3 years' rule had been accepted.

Any presumption, says Sir Richard Garth, against a proprietor that a tenant of his has acquired as against him a permanent right or tenure is an obvious injustice. And it becomes a still greater injustice when, according to law, the only way in which a tenant can earn or acquire such a right is by an act of his own. Why should it be presumed as against a landlord

that his tenant has done an act which is to confer a benefit upon himself to the prejudice of his landlord?

It seems to the Chief Justice, that to place landlords deliberately in such a difficulty as this would be a cruel injustice. The time occupied, and the expense involved, in a trial of this kind, would be out of all proportion to its importance; and this burthen is to be thrown upon the landlord, directly in opposition to the ordinary rules of evidence; merely for the purpose of relieving the ryot from proving a case which, if it is an honest one, he ought to be able to establish without the least difficulty. The ryot, as a rule, must know perfectly well where he and his forefathers have lived; and if they have changed their residence, he or his family or his neighbours ought to know best how to prove it.

With regard to sub-letting, the arguments of the Chief Justice are equally cogent. He has clearly pointed out that the sections about sub-letting are fraught with confusion and uncertainty. There will be perpetual disputes, and interminable differences between tenants and sub-tenants. In the opinion of Sir Richard Garth these sections are very unwise, and he is satisfied that they will lead to a torrent of litigation. As regards the transferability of occupancy tenures, the Chief Justice has said a great deal in his former Minute, and he is still of the same opinion as he was then:

It is admitted that occupancy tenures were not transferable at the time of the Permanent Settlement, and the only arguments which are advanced now in favour of the right of transfer are—

1st—that the custom of transferring tenures has become much more general of late years; and

2nd—that if the right of transfer were allowed, it would render occupancy rights more valuable.

With regard to the first of these arguments, it may be true that in some districts the customary right of transfer has become more general; but that only means, that in those districts the landlords have either openly permitted transfers, or at any rate have allowed the practice to continue unchecked during a long course of years. But no one goes so far as to deny that the landlords in these districts had a right to prevent the practice if they had chosen to do so; and if so, it is difficult to see why other landlords who have adhered to and protected their rights should now be arbitrarily deprived of them. This is only another illustration of the way in which the law has been attained in favour of the ryot and to the prejudice of the landlord, entirely regardless of what was the state of things at the time of the Permanent Settlement.

As regards the second argument, I quite admit that to make the occupancy right saleable would increase its value in the market. But it does not at all follow that this will be beneficial to the ryot himself. On the contrary, I consider that there is no surer mode of exterminating occupancy-ryots as a class than by permitting them to transfer their tenures; and I believe it would be found on enquiry that in those districts where occupancy-rights have become transferable by custom, a large portion of them have already found their way into the hands of mahajans, planters and others, whilst the original owners of those tenures have become non-occupancy ryots. If the Government really mean to benefit the occupancy-ryot, let them take every possible means of preventing him from ruining himself by parting with his ancestral *jotes* and becoming the prey of those whose interest it is to deprive him of his status and property. The men who are most interested in making occupancy-rights transferable are land-jobbers, mahajans, and above all, so far as I can understand, planters. I say, therefore, again, and I say it far more in the interest of the ryots than in that of the Zemindars—'If you want to ruin occupancy-ryots, give them the power of transferring their interests.' If you want on the other hand to do them a real benefit, prevent those interests from being transferred, even on estates where they are transferable now. In my opinion, therefore, by making the occupancy-right transferable, you not only do the Zemindar a wrong, but you do the occupancy-ryot a much greater wrong. You are taking away the best, and indeed the only, safeguard which is calculated to preserve him from ruin.

The criticism on the Chapter on Distrain and Ejectment is very valuable. It is needless to remind His Excellency the Viceroy, says Sir Richard Garth, that one of the principal objects of the new Rent Law was to provide more effectual means of enabling landlords to realize their rents.

That was the avowed purpose of the Bill which was introduced into the Bengal Council in 1877; and it has been admitted over and over again that the landlords are fairly entitled to all the assistance in this respect which Government can reasonably afford them.

Now, what has this Bill done for the landlords? Absolutely nothing. On the contrary, it has taken away from them two of their most effectual remedies, namely, (a) the right of ejectment, given by the Act of 1859, if the rent is not paid within so many days from the date of the decree, and (b) the right of distraint.

Now, why should landlords be deprived of these remedies? The ryots themselves have never complained of one or the other. There is surely nothing unjust in ejecting a man from his holding, who, after subjecting his landlord unjustly to the expense and delay of a law suit, is unable or unwilling to pay the sum decreed; and as for distress, the complaints, such as they are, which have been made about it have been greatly exaggerated. The best proof that the remedy by distress is reasonable, and that it is not, generally speaking, exercised illegally, is shown by the incontestable and significant fact, that suits for illegal distresses are very rare. If the right were improperly exercised, the tenants would be only too ready to bring suits against the landlord; whereas the fact is that of late years there are hardly any such suits. I find from the High Court Reports that in 1881 the number of suits for arrears of rent was 144, 127, whilst suits of all kinds relating to distraint were only 330; and in 1882 suits for arrears of rent numbered 155, 668, whilst suits for distraint were only 282!!!

This really seems a complete answer to the charge that the right of distress has been improperly exercised; and as for the right of ejectment, if it is considered that the time now given to the defendant to pay the rent is too short, make it longer; but do not take away one of the few remedies which have proved effectual to the landlord.

We must stop here to-day. We have still a great deal to say on the question which has been so ably discussed by the Chief Justice. He has thrown valuable light on many points which were imperfectly understood before. Let us hope that the remarks of the Chief Justice will open the eyes of our legislators who are determined to be blind. Our revenue-seers, would continually interfere between the landlord and his tenants and arrest the healthy progress of the country. They are guided by theories which cannot be applied to this country; and would continually harp upon the "miseries" and "wretched state" of the Bengal cultivators which exist nowhere except in their own imagination. The advocates of tenant-right are slaves of an idea—an idea which makes them deaf to most powerful arguments, and blind to the true state of the country. "They walk as in a trance, political somnambulists bound by their own spell, and serving a phantom of their own creation." It is time that these political somnambulists should wake from their trance, and give peace and rest to the agricultural community in India.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE NATIVE STATES.

THE LONDON *Times* has made the charges brought against the Maharaja Holkar of Indore and his eldest son and heir, the Bala Saheb, a peg on which to hang a tirade against the Native States of India. The writer first discusses the question of Holkar's conduct during the critical period of the Mutiny in a spirit, which would do credit to the *Pioneer* itself—the recognised organ and mouth-piece of the Indian Foreign Office. The writer says:—"The telegrams which we have published from India during the last fortnight have shown that the Maharaja is strangely anxious, notwithstanding the almost unanimous verdict of lenient historians, the assurance of, at the least, official inaction, and the long lapse of time, for a fresh inquiry into his conduct during the Mutiny. The opinion of Englishmen at large has long been made up to place the most favourable construction on the part he played during the early days of July 1857, to accept all his explanations, and to assume that his mutinous soldiers had really broken loose from his authority. Beyond this no fresh or more exhaustive inquiry is likely to bring satisfaction to the mind of Holkar, or to increase such reputation as he may aspire to for having once been a supporter of the English Raj. There are many who think that in this matter Holkar owed much

to his good fortune, and he ought to be well assured that if he persists in reviving controversial matters he will invest with fresh force those arguments against himself, and which as matters of opinion have as much right to be accepted and pass current as the pleas advanced in his extenuation or self-justification." It will thus be seen that the *Thunderer* has administered a positive threat to Holkar. It tells him in almost so many plain words that if he persists in having the question of his conduct during the early days of the Mutiny re-opened, the result would go seriously against himself. This will certainly be the case if the enquiry should be entrusted to an average Anglo-Indian official. It is one of the articles of the Anglo-Indian political creed that in a quarrel between a native and an Englishman, the former, however high soever his character or exalted his position may be, can never be right. But if an impartial investigation into the whole affair were made by a Royal Commission or a Select Committee of the House of Commons, the result, we have no hesitation in saying, will remove the stigma on the reputation of Holkar which has been fixed by the Foreign Office. There is, however, no hope that such an investigation will be made. Even if Lord Ripon could be persuaded to re-open the question of Holkar's conduct during the early days of the Mutiny, His Lordship's action would do no practical good unless the enquiry should be entrusted to a perfectly independent and impartial tribunal. So long as the matter is in the hands of the Foreign Office, there is no hope that the grave injustice done to Holkar will be remedied. It would, indeed, be an exceedingly unfortunate thing for the Maharaja if the Viceroy should re-open the question and direct a fresh enquiry to be made under the orders of the Foreign Office; for, in that case, the threat held out by the *Thunderer* is sure to be carried into execution. The only way in which we can hope to obtain justice in matters like these is to force them on the attention of Parliament; but then painful experience has taught us that, under the existing state of things, there is no chance of our getting a hearing in Parliament. Not content with discussing the question of Holkar's conduct during the Mutiny the writer in the *Times* proceeds to consider the condition of his State at the present time and observes:

"If it is a good thing for a ruler to raise his revenue in four years without any external or internal necessity by 25 per cent., and to declare his resolve to double it within a short period, then the Maharaja Holkar is the most excellent of princes and the wisest of rulers. It would be interesting to learn what his weaker subjects think about the matter, and perhaps still more instructive to ascertain what the Political officers in the Central India Agency have reported confidentially during the last five years on the subjects of State exactions, the accumulation of treasure in the hands of the ruler, and the omission to perform some of the simplest functions of administration." Well, the writer in *Times* would have the English public believe that Holkar is an extortionate and rapacious ruler, because he has raised his revenue in four years by 25 per cent. But does he know that the State landlord has enhanced the rents of the ryots of the Khas Mehal of Jlamuta in the district of Midnapore from 50 to 300 per cent? Viewed by the light of these proceedings, Holkar must be pronounced a more considerate and merciful landlord than the British Government. There are some extenuating circumstances connected with the enhancement of the revenue demand in Indore which do not exist in the case of the Khas Mehal of Jlamuta. Holkar has been able to raise assessment on the land in four years by 25 per cent. in consequence of the rapid progress of the poppy cultivation. Opium is a very valuable crop, and the ryots who raise it can afford to pay a high rate of rent. If an enquiry were made into the circumstances connected with the enhancement of the revenue demand in Indore, it would be found that the assessment on the opium land has been enhanced. We do not, of course, know the contents of the confidential reports on the revenue administration of Indore which the political offi-

cers in the Central India Agency have made within the last few years. But we know that Colonel Bannerman, the present acting Resident at Indore, in his recently published Report for 1882-83, writes:—"The revenue administration of the Indore State is not wholly measurable by the assessment announced. The Maharaja is an astute ruler and is quite capable of estimating accurately the paying power of the agriculturalists; pressure is only applied to a certain extent and then relaxed. As one of His Highness' officials remarked in discussing this process, only a certain amount of oil can be extracted from *til* seed and there is no object in squeezing the empty shell." The enhanced assessment of which the writer in the *Times* speaks is not realized in full. Holkar, unlike the British Government, regulates his revenue demand according to the character of the season and the harvest. In Native States there is a great difference between paper assessment and actual realization. In British India the inexorable tax-gatherer knows no mercy even in seasons of drought and scarcity and the revenue demand is exacted to the uttermost farthing. But the Revenue system in Native States is an elastic one, which suits the habits of the people admirably. In British India the rigidity of the revenue system, in spite of the lightness of the assessments, has resulted in the indebtedness of the peasantry. This fact is ignored by Anglo-Indian critics of the revenue administration in Native States. Owing to the high price of opium the Maharaja Holkar's ryots are able to pay enhanced rents on their hands. Now that the price of the drug has fallen considerably we have no doubt an astute ruler like Holkar, will revise the assessments with a view to their reduction.

The writer in the *Times* thus concludes his article:—"The question how Native States of India are governed is one that cannot be much longer shelved. It has indeed as it was pointed out in the columns of the *Times* during the year 1878, been long a matter of almost urgent necessity, if the welfare of the natives of Hindus is to be the first object of English rule in that country; but nevertheless it would be singularly strange if the restlessness of Holkar were to precipitate the consideration of a question that admits of no solution without depriving him and his class of much of the uncontrolled power and authority which they have not the knowledge and sometimes not even the will to usefully employ for the benefit of their own peoples." The value of the Native States of India to the British Government was emphatically recognised by Lord Ripon in his famous address at the Mayo College, Ajmere, three years ago. The *Times* itself, writing on this subject in 1874, distinctly said that the Feudatory States of India "lighten the load of Government" and "act as safety-valves." The Native States offer an excellent field for the employment of Native talent in the administration of public affairs. For the restless and ambitious men born to rule there is no field under the British system of administration. What would be the case with men like Sir Madava Rao, Sir Salar Jung, Sir Dinkar Rao, Sir Faiz Ali Khan, Mir Sahamutali, if there were no Native States in India? Such men cannot be content with the charge of a subdivision or a seat on an inferior judicial bench. Men born to rule having no career suited to their capacity and aspirations open to them, cannot be expected to approve a state of things which stands in the way of the gratification of their legitimate ambition. If the writer in the *Times* thinks that the people in the British territory are happier than those in the Native States, he should carefully study the result of the enquiry instituted by Lord Lawrence into the comparative merits of Native and British rule.

THE RENT LAW IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

THE recently published Report on the revenue administration of the North-Western Provinces for 1882-83 is chiefly valuable for the light it throws on the working of the Rent Law in those provinces. The number of suits instituted during the year under report was 71,681 as compared with 72,631 in 1881-82. In cases for

arrears of rent the falling off amounts to 1785 suits. Altogether 22 districts in the province record a decrease and the remaining twelve return an increase. The largest increase took place in Jaunpur, the Collector of which district remarks as follows: "The reason given for the increase last year was that the landholders had been realizing the uncollected arrears that accrued after the scarcity and hard times of 1877-78 and 1878-79. No doubt a prosperous year is fertile in such litigation, the landholders having more money to risk in the institution of suits and the prospect of recovery being better. In the same manner the prosperity of the year under review may have operated to keep up the tendency to litigation. For the steadily continuing increase a further reason must be sought. It will probably be found in the unsettlement of relations between landlord and tenant caused by the operations for the revision of records in progress in the district." The Allahabad Board do not endorse the theory that a prosperous year following one or more bad seasons tends to increased litigation from the landlord's desire to realise what he can when the tenant has funds available and to keep alive his claims. The Board, however, rightly accept the other cause for the increase given by the Collector of Jaunpur, viz., the preparation of the record of rights which must, we are told, while it lasts, set the parties at arms length and encourage them to contest every claim by which the status of the tenants may be affected." It is thus clear that an unsettlement of relations between landlords and tenants necessarily tends to increased litigation, a view which we have persistently maintained in these columns since the publication of the Report of the Rent Law Commission. We observe that of the suits for arrears of rent decided during the year under review, only 23 per cent. including the cases referred to arbitration, were disposed of after contest, the plaintiffs being successful in all except 2,423 cases. This fact conclusively shows that landlords do not institute false suits for arrears of rent. No less than 28 per cent. of the total number of cases disposed of were decided *ex parte*. District officers are unanimous in assuring the Board that this result is not due to any irregularity in the service of summons, but simply to the inability of the defendants to contest the claim.

Although the statistics of rent law litigation in the North-Western Provinces show that the total number of cases was greater than in the preceding year, yet it is noticeable that the whole increase has been in applications. The returns show 88,194 applications in the year under report compared with 86,092 in 1881-82. The increase in the number of applications filed was mainly in ejectment cases. Contested ejectments exhibit an increase of 191, ejectments for arrears, an increase of 474, and ejectment of tenants without rights, an increase of 1,784 cases. Sir Alfred Lyall, in reviewing the Board's report, observes that as no sudden or violent alteration can be shown to have occurred in the economic condition of the province or in the relations subsisting between the land-owning and cultivating classes the explanation of the sudden increase must be sought in the law itself. He thinks that this explanation is to be found in the modification made by the Rent Act of 1881 in the former law, whereby it became compulsory on landlords to proceed in all cases of ejectment by issue of notice. This measure has unquestionably thrown a very considerable amount of additional work on the revenue courts, but it has, in Mr. Alfred Lyall's opinion, conferred a large degree of security on the holders of cultivating tenures, who are no longer liable to ejectment without regular process of law. The increase of applications for ejectment may at first show that the relations subsisting between the land-owning and cultivating classes in the North-Western Provinces have changed for the worse; but a careful consideration of the extent of ejectment proceedings and the area affected by them will show that this is not the case. It appears that only 1.3 per cent. of the cultivated area of the province was touched by this legislation; and even assuming that all cases of which the final result is not yet recorded ended unfavourably to the tenant, only

.42 per cent. of the cultivated area changed hands under the operation of these processes. The Government Resolution on the Board's Report says:—"So far, therefore, as present statistics show, there is little reason to believe that the alleged antagonism of interest between landlords and tenants has progressed in 1882-83, or has led to any widespread system of ejectment. This conclusion seems to be supported by the very small extent to which tenants all over the province sought legal redress against vexatious or tyrannical acts, a fact forbidding the inference that landlords have generally had recourse to such measures in preference to the legal assertion of their rights. Only 249 applications for compensation for wrongful dispossession and 2,017 for recovery of occupancy were filed during the year. Applications for enhancement and determination of rent fell from 6,949 to 6,020, and will probably become still fewer in some of the more recently settled districts, as rents adjust themselves to the settlement standards." It is true that there has been a slight increase in the number of rent deposits. But this fact, too, Sir Alfred Lyall points out, does not prove the alleged antagonism of interest between landlords and tenants, for the obvious reason that rent deposits are as often necessitated by disputes among the proprietors themselves as by differences between them and their tenants. The Board have laid much stress on the fact that out of 10,622 contested notices of ejectment the tenants were successful in 5,184 cases and lost in 5,434 cases; and that occupancy tenants lost their right of tenancy in an area of 32,300 acres, while tenants who successfully contested notices remained undisturbed in an area of 28,961 acres. But Sir Alfred Lyall does not attach much importance to these figures. He remarks:—"The Board have dealt in their paragraphs 109 and 110 with the results of contested ejectments. But it seems scarcely possible to dispose effectively of the subject except in connection with the total number of notices issued. The Board have, therefore, good reason for leaving over the consideration of the question till more trustworthy figures are available; but it is a matter for regret, especially after attention had been invited to the subject with considerable emphasis in former reports and reviews, that no measures were taken in proper time to secure accurate statements for the year under review. The separate communication promised by the Board at the end of their 111th paragraph will, the Lieutenant-Governor understands, be now soon received; and it is trusted that the expectations of the Government in regard to a continuous and comprehensive examination by the Board of the state, and movement of the relations between landlord and tenant, will be fulfilled in next year's report." We hope the Board will deal with this important subject in a thoroughly unbiassed and judicial spirit. When the present law is working satisfactorily, it would be the height of unwisdom to throw an apple of discord between landlords and tenants by mischievous interference.

THE ARMIES OF NATIVE STATES.

THE LONDON *Times* has been publishing in its columns a series of articles on the Native States of India from the pen of a correspondent. That they are written by an Anglo-Indian goes without saying. We do not know who the correspondent of the *Times* is, but internal evidence leads us to ascribe them to Sir Lepel Griffin. The writer does not openly advocate the annexation of the remaining Native States of India, but he does not conceal his opinion that their incorporation with the British dominions would in every way be desirable. He is one of those who think that there is no such thing as good government in the Native States, and that their people are eager to enjoy the blessings of British rule. The primary object of the writer in the *Times* is, however, to convince the British public that the armies maintained by the feudatory Chiefs and Princes are greatly in excess of their requirements and that the more pressing interests of their people are sacrificed in order that they may have the satisfaction of making a display. Referring to the armies maintained by the Chiefs in Rajputana, the writer says:—"I have, therefore, arrived at the sufficiently startling result that the States of

Rajputana alone support armies numbering nearly 93,000 men and an artillery of 2,000 guns. The largeness of these figures, coupled with the fact that no attempt has ever been made to employ their armies against us, is the strangest testimony as to their efficiency. But can a greater waste of treasure and resources be conceived than a population of nine millions to be saddled with the maintenance of this army of 90,000 men? At the same rate British India would have to bear the cost of an army of not less than two million men." The writer in the *Times* would make the feudatory chiefs disband their armies and accept their position as nobles of the Indian Empire. He would not be content with a reduction of these armies, and he insists on the desirability of their complete abolition. He would, however, make an exception in favour of the armies in the Sikh States of the Punjab, as they do in some small way contribute to the preservation of the Sikh vitality, which is to be desired.

The question of reducing the armies of Native States, as our readers may remember, was taken up in right earnest by Lord Lytton in pursuance of that policy of Imperialism which his Lordship considered it his mission to carry out in India. A circular despatch on the subject was actually issued from the Foreign Office under the orders of the late Viceroy. Happily, the matter did not proceed beyond the stage of discussion during Lord Lytton's reign. In dealing with this important question, it cannot be too carefully borne in mind that the armies of Native States are maintained under the terms of treaties concluded with British Government. Each feudatory chief or prince has the right to keep a certain number of armed men and guns, and this right has been expressly conceded to him by the Paramount Power in black and white. Should any chief be found to maintain armies in excess of the stipulated strength, the Government of India will be fully justified in calling upon him to reduce them to the proper standard. But if the Government were to require any chief to reduce his forces below the sanctioned limit, it would be guilty of a gross breach of public faith. This important consideration is conveniently ignored or overlooked by those who speak of the desirability of abolishing the armies of Native States or of reducing them considerably. To insist that the British Government would be justified to make a feudatory chief reduce his forces to any extent desired by it is to argue that treaties solemnly made can be set at naught at the sweet pleasure of the more powerful contracting party. We cannot for a moment imagine that a right-minded and conscientious Englishman would advocate a course involving a breach of the solemn treaty-engagements deliberately entered into by the Paramount Power with its feudatories. Of course, if it could be shown that the armies of Native States are a source of danger to the Indian Empire, a new complexion would be put upon the question. But the proposition is utterly untenable. A well informed correspondent who had spent many years in Native States and had exceptional opportunities of forming a correct judgment on the subject, wrote sometime ago:—"Some I know very strongly object to our allowing Native States to have any troops for fear they might some day combine against us. All history, however, proves the utter impossibility of combination among races so diverse in religion and customs and with interests so conflicting as we find them. They can never trust each other; and supposing that some ever did attempt rebellion they would have to leave their homes before they could do much harm, and in the mean time the Imperial Government could let slip some other loyal chief at them who would be only too glad to divide the land of the rebellious States as a reward which would naturally follow. Native Chiefs would think twice before they expose themselves to such peril. In the mutiny, such loyal Native Chiefs as had troops tried to help us." The notion that the armies of Native States might become a source of danger to the Imperial Government is so preposterous that it cannot for a moment be entertained by any reasonable man.

We wonder how the writer in the *Times* could, having all the facts of the case before him, come to the conclusion that the forces of the feudatory chiefs are quite unnecessary, and should, there-

fore, be reduced to the dimensions of a personal retinue. Though the armies of Native States are quite useless for military purposes, they discharge important public functions. It should be remembered that a separate police force is not maintained by the feudatory Chiefs. The work which is performed by the police in British India is done in Native States by the troops. The writer in the *Times* tells the British public that a greater waste of treasure and resources cannot be conceived than the maintenance of an army of 90,000 men in Rajputana which contains a population of only 9 millions. The writer would not have probably made this observation if he had known that these 90,000 men have to do the work of police throughout Rajputana, which is a large tract of country, and which abounds in marauding classes. Violent crime is still rampant in that province. Its criminal classes often obtain a kind of sanction to the crimes perpetrated by them from the collusion of persons of position and influence who are paid a share of the *loot* by dacoits. Gangs of Minas, Baorees, Bhils and other criminal tribes are to be found throughout Rajputana, and unless these are carefully watched, they commit no end of depredations. The supervision of these classes is not an easy task, and this task devolves upon the armies of Native States in Rajputana, as no separate police force is maintained in them. Under these circumstances if the armies of Native States were abolished, the feudatory chiefs would find it necessary to maintain large numbers of policemen for the performance of the functions which are now discharged by their troops; and the difference in a pecuniary point of view would be scarcely appreciable. Not only do the sepoys of Native States perform police functions, they also do such work as is done by Tahsil Chaprasis, Jail warders &c., &c., in British India. If the question were dealt with on broad grounds of statesmanship, the Government of India, instead of insisting on the abolition or reduction of the armies of Native Chiefs, should encourage each feudatory chief to maintain a respectable force in an efficient state, so that the Imperial Government may have a large auxiliary force to support its regular army in case of need. A Native prince on one occasion said to the correspondent of the *Pioneer*, from whom we have quoted above:—"The British Government keeps us weak; some day perhaps it may need the help that loyal chiefs could have given, if they had the power. My ancestors have fought to death in days gone-by for Emperors, and why does Government not believe the same spirit would animate us now if occasion arise." The suggestion embodied in these noble words should receive the careful and attentive consideration of the Government of India.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THE several Departments of the Bengal Secretariat will close at Darjeeling on the 25th instant, and will open in Calcutta on the 1st November 1884.

THE Hon'ble Peari Mohan Mukerjee has been added to the Select Committee on the Tenancy Bill.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor has acknowledged the liberality of Kumar Rajendra Narain Rai and Raja Surja Kanta Acharjya, who have made a free gift to Government of the land covered by the line of the Dacca and Mymensing State Railway within their estates.

IT HAS been decided to hold a special examination for statutory Civil Servants in December next. The Lieutenant-Governor has, after full consideration, resolved to allow such of the applicants for appointment to the statutory Civil Service, as have been approved by him, to compete at this examination. And on the conclusion of the examination, he will submit to the Government of India, with his recommendations, the names of the candidates who, in order of merit,

occupy the first six places on the examination list. For the purpose of conducting the proposed examination, a Committee will be appointed, consisting of the Director of Public Instruction, the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, and the Legal Remembrancer.

THE TOTAL demand of land revenue amounted in the Dacca Division to Rs. 37,77,754 against Rs. 37,88,216 in 1882-83. Out of this, Rs. 33,62,220 were collected and Rs. 16,996 remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 4,02,538 still due at the close of the year. This balance, says the Lieutenant-Governor, though somewhat less than at the close of the previous year, is still unreasonably heavy, and no satisfactory explanation is given, though it may be inferred that a large proportion of it is due to short collections from estates under direct management. Comment on this is unnecessary.

NONE of the landholders of the Dacca Division, says the Lieutenant-Governor, are spoken of with dispraise by the Commissioner while Nawab Asanullah, now, as on many previous occasions deserves special mention for his loyalty and public spirit. The Zemindars of the Division, we submit with due deference, are entitled to the highest praise for their exemplary conduct under the peculiarly trying circumstances in which they were placed during the past year.

MR. RIVERS THOMPSON justly complains of a large section of the Native Press deeming it right to misrepresent every saying or action of His Honor and often indeed before he had said or done anything which would give a colour to their reproaches. We have no sympathy with those of our contemporaries who indulge in personal invectives, and delight in making a mountain of a molehill. They should remember that what they have to say will command more attention said moderately than insolently or defiantly.

THE following remarks of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor concerning the attitude of ryots towards their landlords in the Dacca Division show the feeling of the Bengal Government towards landholders as a body:

Apart from the references to the estrangement of feeling subsisting in Backergunge between landlords and tenants, things went on smoothly enough during the year, except in Mymensing, where very serious disputes regarding rent have existed for seven years past. There was during the year some fear that they would spread, but the action taken has for the time prevented this. Still it is clear that the attitude of the parties is full of hostility and distrust, and that the state of truce which exists—a truce, however, during which the ryots pay no rent—is maintained only until the fate of the Tenancy Bill is known. Should the bill become law next session the Lieutenant-Governor anticipates no trouble in restoring peace between the contending parties.

The Lieutenant-Governor does not mention that the Zemindars of Mymensing complained to His Honor of the non-payment of rent and of the generally defiant attitude of their ryots, and that His Honor refused to give any help to the landholders to recover their dues. His Honor anticipates no trouble in restoring peace between the contending parties if the Tenancy Bill becomes law next session. We can assure him that his trouble will be increased hundred-fold if the Legislature be so unwise as not to withdraw the Bill next session.

THE *Times* says:

We have already intimated that the object of Professor Monier Williams' recent visit to India was to submit to the Government at Calcutta a proposal for the establishment of six Government scholarships for deserving natives of India (one for the Lower Bengal, one for Bombay, one for Madras one for the North-West Provinces, one for the Central Provinces, and one for the Punjab) to be attached to the Indian Institute at Oxford, which will be opened for work in the course of next October term.

Professor Williams proposed that each scholarship should be of the annual value of £200 a year, and should be tenable for three years, but that the holding of such scholarship should be made conditional on the scholars passing the Oxford University examinations and obtaining satisfactory certificates of progress and conduct from the curators of the Indian Institute at the close of every term. Furthermore, Professor Monier Williams proposed that the scholars should be selected from those who had passed the best "First Arts" examination at the Indian Universities, but that they should not be allowed to proceed to England without passing a medical examination and giving unexceptionable proof of high moral character. The proposal was accepted by the Governor General of India in Council, and was submitted for approval to the Secretary of State for India in Council.

We are now able to announce that Lord Kimberley has sanctioned the establishment of the six scholarships asked for by the Oxford Boden Professor of Sanskrit, but preference is to be given to statutory civil servants who are desirous of passing a probationary period in this country, and the scholars are to be allowed to reside in any institution connected with any University in the United Kingdom which provides supervision of conduct, and enforces residence within definite local limits, and is approved by the Secretary of State for India.

Very few of the Statutory Civil Servants would be inclined, we are afraid, to pass a period of probation in England, so that there is very little danger to Professor Monier Williams' scheme from that quarter. The other condition, however, may tend to frustrate the object he had in view.

PARIAH dogs are the pest of Calcutta. We wish some means could be found to exterminate them. Baranussee Ghose's Street is so much infested by them, that it is impossible for any one to pass through the Street quietly even in broad day-light. We would draw the attention of the Police and Municipal authorities to this nuisance.

THE *Statesman* has conclusively shown in a series of able articles that the Bengal Tenancy Bill is based upon misconceptions, vague impressions, and crass ignorance bred of 'radical' prejudices:—"It is a gigantic delusion" says our contemporary, and should be withdrawn instantly, that exact enquiry may be made regarding the real economic condition of the province. At the time when the East India Company received its sunud in 1765, that sunud carried with it the grant of the khiraj on the land, and it was this khiraj that Lord Cornwallis made over to the Zemindar in perpetuity. It was not the rental that Lord Cornwallis transferred and sold to the Zemindar, but the Mahomedan land-tax of the khiraj. It was the custom under Mahomedan procedure to fix the khiraj for longer or shorter periods of time, at rates that were supposed to be the money value of one-half the produce, and those rates were not to be disturbed unless they were found to fall short of one-third of the produce, when the amil (collector) or Zemindar was at liberty to increase the rates up to the limit of one-half the produce. The only restriction under the Permanent Settlement which the Zemindar is under by law to this hour, is the restriction that he may not increase his claim upon the ryot, where that claim amounts already to one-third share of the produce. Wherever the rental, as we call it, falls short of that proportion of the produce, he has the constitutional right to increase it as he may see fit, up to one-half the produce. Now it is susceptible of the simplest proof that instead of the Zemindar taking one-half or one-third of the produce as rental, he is not taking more than one-fifteenth to one-twentieth. It will thus be seen that it is little more than a pepper-corn rent that the Zemindar is really taking. It is easy to show conclusively that the lands now under cultivation cannot produce a gross harvest of less than 250 crores a year, while the whole body of officials have persuaded themselves that the 13 crores which the Zemindars claim out of these 250 crores as rent, are a rack rent.

THE following estimates will now speak for themselves:—

	Rs.
Gross value of the annual harvests of Bengal, Behar and Orissa	2,50,00,00,000
The Zemindars' right under the Cornwallis Settlement is one-half the gross produce as rental	1,25,00,00,000
The Government proposes by this Tenancy Bill to strike down the present rentals to 4th the produce or,	62,50,00,00
The Zemindars are themselves meanwhile ineffectually attempting to realize only	13,00,00,000

This will show at a glance that whatever else the zemindar is doing he is not *abusing* the rights conferred upon him by the Settlement of 1793, to rack-rent the ryot. The *Statesman* justly says that the landlord has used his rights under the Settlement with such singular moderation, as to have claimed no more than about one-twentieth of the produce of which he was entitled to take one-half. Every part of the Bill rests upon the mistaken assumption that the zemindar is a rack-renting oppressor, and

that belief collapsing, the attempt to preserve the measure will be a more fatal and a less excusable error than the original bringing of it forward. One of the two expressly avowed objects of the Rent Bill is to save the ryot from "the horrors of eviction," and the other is to secure for him a beneficiary interest in the profits of cultivation. Now it has been shown that the ryot is already appropriating nearly all the profits of cultivation. With regard to evictions, these are practically unknown in these provinces, except on the Khas Mehal estates of Government. The average number of ejectment suits from 1875 to 1880 was 1,799. Thus amongst an agricultural population of 60 to 70 millions, the figures show an average number of 43 ejectment suits a year, in each of the 42 districts of the provinces. The researches of the *Statesman* are simply invaluable. They have thrown a flood of light upon this vexed question of the day.

THERE has been a terrible accident on the Eastern Bengal State Railway. Here is the official account:

A serious accident occurred at the Aranghata Station of the Eastern Bengal Railway at half-past two yesterday (October 1) morning. The down mail train collided with an up goods train. The two trains were to cross at the Aranghata station, and the goods train had slackened speed and was just entering the siding, when the mail train ran into her at nearly full speed, the engines interlocking, the tenders being smashed, and much damage done to the rolling-stock of both trains. The first two carriages on the down mail, a second class and an intermediate class were smashed up, and the next carriage, a third class, was much injured. The driver, James Morgan, and the fireman of the up goods, were killed instantaneously, together with 11 passengers on the down mail, one being the infant child of Mrs. Cann, the wife of the Station Master at Poradah. In addition, 17 people have been injured, seven seriously. Walter Cumming, the driver of the down mail, 2 native firemen, and 5 native passengers are severely wounded, and 10 other passengers more or less contused, including Mrs. Cann and child, and two children of Mr. Cann, the apothecary of the railway at Sealdah. The whole of the wounded were sent down to Calcutta under medical charge. The evidence tends to show that the accident occurred owing to disregard of signals. Both drivers are old and steady men, and have been working on the line for years. The manager, Traffic, and Locomotive Superintendents, with two doctors from Barrackpore, were early on the spot.

It is impossible to estimate the actual loss of life. Strict enquiry is being made as to the real circumstances under which the accident occurred. But as yet the real facts have not come to light. All that we know is that no body is to blame! This information is certainly not very satisfactory, but we must per force remain satisfied with it for the present. The Shamnagar accident, must be yet fresh in the minds of our readers, and they cannot have forgotten what endeavours were made to stifle public enquiry. As an official investigation is now being made into the affair, we will patiently wait to see the result. There is one thing, however, in which we cannot maintain silence. We are informed that "the dead, some of whom were fearfully mutilated, were promptly conveyed to a grave dug for the purpose by the way-side, where under the sanction of the Deputy Magistrate of Ranaghat, they were at once interred." We should like to know what political necessity compelled the authorities to bury Hindus, and mix up Mahomedans, Christians and Hindus together in one common grave? The precipitancy which has been shown in disposing of the dead bodies in the way indicated above cannot be too severely censured. Native feeling is very strong on the subject, and it must be admitted that the outrage on native religion and custom has been extremely reprehensible. We do not wish to say anything more on this subject at present.

We said in a recent issue that there were premonitory signs of a scarcity in different parts of Bengal. Our fears were well-founded. There is famine in parts of the district of Beerbhoom, and other districts are threatened by it. We are glad to learn that active steps have been taken to alleviate distress in Beerbhoom. The local officers are fully alive to all the requirements of the case as far as they should be met by

Government. The local staff has been largely strengthened, both in the Executive and Engineering Departments, and funds, to the extent of Rs. 10,500, have already been placed at the disposal of the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division for expenditure on relief operations in Beerbhoom. Relief works of the most suitable character have been opened. Only those works, however, have been chosen which will afterwards be of public use. It would be unwise, says the Lieutenant-Governor in reply to the representation made by the Indian Association, to multiply local relief works in excess of the requirements of the locality, and, unless under circumstances of extreme distress not now apparent, of the ability of the District Road Fund to maintain them in proper repair. The earthwork on the newly sanctioned railway from Sitarampore to the Central Provinces will, we are informed, supply ample and profitable employment for all able-bodied persons who cannot be employed locally, and it is proposed to send them to work on the first section of the new line commencing at Sitarampore. With regard to the question of affording relief to orphans and widows who will not come to relief works, the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that this is a matter peculiarly within the province of private charity. In this domain, we agree with His Honor, public Associations, can render valuable aid by collecting subscriptions and organizing charitable relief measures, supplementary to the Government operations. They might also use their influence with local zemindars in this respect. It was represented to Government that daily wages of the labourers on the Relief Works were inadequate. Prompt enquiry was made and the rates of wages have been raised by Government orders. At Shahpur and other places relief works are greatly needed and private charity is urgently called for. We hope our countrymen with their accustomed liberality in such cases will promptly respond to the call of distress.

THE REPORT of the Government of Bengal on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1834, together with the reports of District Officers and others who were consulted on the subject have been published. The Lieutenant-Governor has made nineteen proposals in modification of the Bill in its present form. They are as follow:—

- I.—To modify the presumption as to fixity of rent by requiring proof of such fixity in all future cases from 20 years before the passing of the Bill.
- II.—To abandon the proposal to convert into a tenureholder a raiyat who sublets more than half his holding. (The Lieutenant-Governor would maintain section 209, which provides that on the registration of tenures under any law for the time being in force, the summary sale procedure of the Bill for recovery of arrears of rent shall apply to such tenures.)
- III.—To recognise the right of free transfer of occupancy holdings among the agricultural population in Bengal Proper but in Behar to leave matters to be regulated by custom as at present.
- IV.—To omit the pre-emption clauses of the Bill, and to substitute for them a system of compulsory registration accompanied by notice of the transfer to the landlord.
- V.—To give to landlords in Bengal Proper a veto on transfers if the purchaser be a person who does not derive his chief subsistence and income from agriculture.
- VI.—To recognize the principle that, in the absence of reason to the contrary, the court shall regard a rise in the price of staple food-grain as entitling the landlord to an enhancement of rent.
- VII.—To fix the percentage by which the enhanced rent shall exceed the former rent at a definite proportion (one-half is suggested for consideration) of the percentage by which the enhanced prices exceed the former prices, the other portion going as an allowance for increased cost of production.
- VIII.—To assign to enhancements on the ground of landlords' improvements a maximum limit of double the former rent.
- IX.—To abandon the provision for enhancement on the ground of a prevailing rate, [experience has shown that no such rate exists, and that the position under the present law has led to the construction of fictitious rates for the purpose of forcing up the rent.]
- X.—To abandon the provision for enhancement on the ground of rent, but to recognize freedom of contract between landlord and raiyat in regard to new alluvial lands.
- XI.—To withdraw the arbitrary provisions for enhancements by suit on account of a rise in the price of staple food-grains, and to substitute a maximum limit of 2 annas in the case of new alluvial lands, and for a minimum limit of 1 anna in the case of the former rent, and for a minimum limit of 1 anna in the case of the former rent, and for a minimum limit of 1 anna in the case of the former rent.
- XII.—To withdraw all restrictions on the freedom of contract in respect of the initial rent, and to leave the matter to the landlord and raiyat.
- XIII.—To re-introduce the provision for enhancement on the ground of the occupancy or non-occupancy of the land, and to fix the limit of the value of the ground at one-fifth of the value of the staple food-grains.
- XIV.—To give to the raiyat the right to claim compensation for the loss of the right to the land for each year of the loss.
- XV.—To withdraw the provision for enhancement on the ground of the occupancy or non-occupancy of the land, and to fix the limit of the value of the ground at one-fifth of the value of the staple food-grains.

XVI.—To strengthen the customary rights of raiyats in Bastu land by providing that rights of occupancy shall accrue under the Bill in all such lands.

XVII.—To make action under the chapter for preparing Tables of Rates dependent on the application of either party, and not as in the Bill on the discretion of the Local Government.

XVIII.—To retain the present law of distraint with sharper penalties for abuse of it.

XIX.—To omit the section regarding *utbundi* and *halhasity* lands, to regard both classes as subject to the ordinary incidents of ryoti land.

WE BEG to remind our readers that the public Fibre extracting experiments announced to take place on the maidan, south of St. Paul's Cathedral, will be carried out on the 15th instant and six succeeding days (excepting Sunday) from noon to 4 P. M. daily. On the 1st day jute and sunn are to be put to the machines; on the 16th Potari Bhandi, Joba and Stolpoddo are to be tried; Plantain, Madar, (Akunda) Nona and Bon-dheenas will follow on the 17th Agave and Dhonja will be tried on the 18th; and on the 20th the tests will wind up with Rhea, Bow-string hemp and meshta. Seven machines are, we understand, expected to compete for the Government awards.

WE PUBLISH with pleasure the following Resolution of the Government of India in the Revenue and Agricultural Departments on the subject of the Indian and Colonial Exhibition to be held in London in 1886:

The Government of India has accepted, through Her Majesty's Secretary of State, the invitation of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to take part in an Exhibition, to be held in London under a Royal Commission in 1886, the purpose of which, in the words of His Royal Highness, is to demonstrate on the fullest scale to the inhabitants of the British Islands the unbounded industrial resources at their command within the limits of Her Majesty's Colonial and Indian dominion.

2. The co-operation of Local Governments and Administrations in this project has already been invited, and the Government is now desirous that the general public throughout India should be made acquainted with the opportunity which will be afforded of displaying in a complete and comprehensive manner the produce, arts, and manufactures of the Empire.

3. The Exhibition will be opened at South Kensington early in May 1886, and all Indian exhibits should arrive in England before the 1st of January in that year.

4. The terms on which space can be granted, and the extent to which it will be available, cannot be made known until the receipt of further instructions from the Royal Commissioners. But it is desirable that provisional applications for space should be sent in by intending exhibitors at as early a date as possible to such an address as may be determined by the local authorities. Preference will, therefore, be given to applications received before the 1st of March 1885 on the understanding that the area applied for will not necessarily be attained in full, and that the application may be subsequently withdrawn if the charge for space is not accepted.

5. All communications to the Government of India connected with the Exhibition should be addressed to the Officer in charge, Exhibition Branch, Revenue and Agriculture Office.

MEETINGS AGAINST THE TENANCY BILL.

On September 30 at Tikari, in Bihar a crowded meeting of the landholders was held, in which a memorial protesting against the Amended Tenancy Bill being read was approved and signed. The Memorial will be submitted to the Viceroy.

A well attended meeting of the ryots was held at Poradah in Nadia on the 1st instant, in which resolutions protesting against the Tenancy Bill were passed as tending to increase litigation and discord among the landholding classes. It also adopted a resolution to memorialise Government to appoint a representative from the ryots and tenure-holders and exempt all rent suits from Stamp duties.

An enthusiastic meeting of land-holders held at Khorip on the 4th instant, the principle of the Amended Bill was regarded as equally revolutionary as its predecessor and the necessity of re-distribution of property in land was held to be the most important shape it will set class against class, and increase litigation.

On the same day the ryots-holders of Ramdia, Tataliat Faridpur and Baniya in the district of Faridpur met to discuss the principle of the Tenancy Bill and came to the conclusion that it would destroy that security against ejection and rent-raising which they now practically possess.

A meeting of a similar kind was held at Bishkolt in the Faridpur district, in which the existing customary rights of tenants were protected against ejection and rent-raising, and the status quo was maintained.

A meeting of the land-holding classes was held at Joyrampore, in Nadia, on the 10th instant, in which a resolution was passed condemning the

Bill as tending to increase litigation and asking for a representative of the middlemen in the Vice-regal Council and praying for exemption of Stamp duties in rent suits and claiming that the limit of enhancement of tenure-holders rent be reduced to a fourth of the rent previously paid.

DR DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN DISEASES OF THE THROAT.—Sir G. Duncan Gibb, Bart., M. D., LL. D. Physician and Lecturer on Forensic Medicine, Westminster Hospital, author of various works on Diseases of the Throat and Larynx, writes:—"The experience of many years has abundantly proved the truth of every word said in favour of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil by many of our first Physicians and Chemists, thus stamping him as a high authority and an able Chemist, whose investigations have remained unquestioned. Its value, therefore, as a therapeutic agent in a number of diseases, chiefly of an exhaustive character, has been admitted by the world of medicine; but, in addition, I have found it a remedy of great power in the treatment of many affections of the Throat and Larynx, especially in Consumption of the latter, where it will sustain life when everything else fails. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil has an agreeable flavour, is very palatable, and liked by children; hence its value in the third stage of Hooping-Cough, when it acts as a restorative and tonic." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints and quarts with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSIL SUBSCRIPTION	Rs.	As.	P.
Kumar Ramessur Singh Bahadur C.S., Durbhunga	6	8	0
H. H. the Maharaja of Bingham, Bharnich	13	4	0
Sey. Patriotic Institute, Garhwal	10	0	0
Srinivasa Iengar Esq., Bangalore	13	4	0
H. H. the Elia Raja of Nilambur, Calicut	13	4	0
Dr. Ramdas Sen, Berhampore	13	4	0
Baboo Monohurry Lal Shome, Chinsurah	2	0	0
Hem Chunder Gossain, Serampore	13	4	0
Hury Das Acharjee, Tangail	11	4	0
Mohes Chunder Singha, Kola	3	4	0
Nemy Churn Bose, Kothar	10	0	0
Ganendra Coommar Roy Chowdry, Taki	10	0	0
Girish Chunder Guho, Naraingunge	3	5	0
Kasey Chunder Mookerjee, Mozaferpore	6	10	0
Brojo Mohun Mitra, Barielly	13	4	0
Bonomaly Roy, Pabna	13	4	0
Okhoy Coommar Mookerjee, Gazeepore	20	0	0
Annoda Churn Ghose, Jorhat	13	4	0
Prosunno Coommar Dutt, Dacca	6	10	0
Lalit Madub Roy, Purneah	13	4	0
Grish Chunder Ghose, Hooghly	1	2	6

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette, 8th September 1884.

GENERAL.—Baboo Koylash Chander Das, Sub-Deputy Collector, employed as General Manager of Wards Estates in Chittagong, is allowed leave for two months with effect from the 11th instant. Mr C M W Brett, C S, has been granted by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India extension of furlough for three months.

Mr H Halmwood, Assistant Magistrate and collector, is posted to the district of Mymensing and is appointed to have charge of the Attia sub-division of that district.

Baboo Nabin Chunder Mitter, Second Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Patna Division, is allowed leave for one month, with effect from the 6th instant.

Mr C C Quinn, C S, has been granted by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for twenty-one days.

Mr L Hare, C S has been granted by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for fifteen days.

Mr G A Grierson is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy collectors in the district of Patna, with effect from the date on which he was relieved of his appointment as officiating Magistrate and collector of that district.

Baboo Rajani coommar Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy collector, Jamalpore, Mymensingh, is transferred to the sudder station of the district of Purneah, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved by Baboo Nanda Krishna Bose.

Baboo Kasi Kinker Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy collector, Attia, Mymensingh, is transferred to the sudder station of the district of Rajshahye.

Mr C F Worsley, Magistrate and collector, Champaran, is appointed to be a Magistrate and collector of the first grade, with effect from the 2nd instant, vice Mr F Jones, deceased.

Mr C C Quinn, Magistrate and collector, Patna, on furlough, is appointed to be a Magistrate and collector of the second grade, with effect from the 2nd instant, vice Mr C F Worsley.

Mr H G Sharp, Officiating Magistrate and collector, Furreedpore, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the third grade, with effect from the 2nd instant, vice Mr C C Quinn.

Mr Sharp will continue to act in the second grade of Magistrates and collectors until further orders.

Mr R Cornish, temporary Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the first grade, is confirmed in that grade, with effect from the 2nd instant, vice Mr H G Sharp.

Mr Cornish will continue to act as Magistrate and Collector of Midnapore until further orders.

Mr R C Dutt, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, of the second grade, is appointed temporarily to be a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the first grade, with effect from the 2nd instant, vice Mr R Cornish.

Mr Dutt will continue to act as Magistrate and Collector of Backergunge until further orders.

Mr R Porch, Magistrate and Collector, Malda is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of Pooree.

H G Sharp, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Furreedpore, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of Malda.

Mr H Mosely, Magistrate and Collector of Moorshedabad on furlough, is pointed to be Magistrate and Collector of Backergunge.

This cancels the order of the 29th ultimo, appointing Mr Mosley to be Magistrate and Collector of Furreedpore.

Mr R H Pawsey, Magistrate and Collector of Outack, appointed to be Magistrate and Collector of Furreedpore.

This cancels the order of the 29th ultimo, appointing Mr Pawsey to be Magistrate and Collector of Dinagpore.

Mr H S Beadon, Magistrate and Collector of Balasore, on furlough, is appointed to be Magistrate and Collector of Dinagpore.

This cancels the order of the 29th ultimo, appointing Mr Beadon to be Magistrate and Collector of Backergunge.

Baboo Mohannud Gupta, Deputy Collector, on special duty under the Public Works Department of this Government, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in the district of Burdwan, Manbhoom, and Singbhoom.

Baboo Kanti Bhushan Bose is appointed to act as a Special Deputy Collector for employment under the Public Works Department, Railway branch, of this Government for the purpose of acquiring lands for the Bengal-Nagpore Railway.

Baboo Kanti Bhushan Bose is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in the districts Burdwan, Manbhoom, and Singbhoom.

Baboo Deno Nath Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy collector, is posted to the sudder station of the Sarun district.

Mr C W Fordyce is appointed to be Special Deputy collector for employment under the Public Works Department of this Government, for the purpose of acquiring lands required for the Bhagiraththe embankments in the district of Moorshedabad.

Mr Fordyce is vested with the powers of a collector under Act X of 1870 in the district of Moorshedabad.

POLICE.—Mr RL Ward, officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, Sarun, is allowed leave for two months, with effect from the 10th September 1884.

Mr W F Smith, District Superintendent of Police, Chittagong, is allowed leave for one month, with effect from the 9th November next.

Advertisements.

POSTAL NOTICE.

From 1st October 1884, a change will be made in the form of application for inland money orders, and a coupon, or slip, will be attached to each, which will be delivered with the money order to the payee without extra charge. The object of the coupon is to enable a remitter to write to the payee the purpose for which the money order is sent, or any other message he pleases. The coupon will be retained by the payee.

2. Forms can be obtained gratis at the Post Office as before. The remitter will have, as at present, to fill in the amount of the order, the payee's name and address and his own name and address on the receipt and acknowledgment. Remitters will continue to receive acknowledgments for their money orders signed by the payees.

3. Remitters must fill in the side of the form printed in black. The reverse printed in red ink is to be filled in by the Post Office only.

SIMLA, 25th September, 1884. } A. U. FANSHAWE
Offg. Director General
of the Post Office of India.

POSTAL NOTICE.

BRITISH POSTAL ORDERS.

1. With effect from 1st October 1884, British Postal Orders for fixed sums, from 1s. to £1, will be available for sale to the public at all Head Post Offices, and will be obtainable on application to any Sub-Post Office from its Head Office.

2. The following are the amounts for which British Postal Orders are issued, together with the cost of each order in Indian currency, including commission and exchange:—

Amounts of British Postal Orders.	Cost in Indian currency, including commission and exchange.	Amounts of British Postal Orders.	Cost in Indian currency including commission and exchange.
s. d.	Rs. A. P.	s. d.	Rs. A. P.
1 0	0 10 9	4 6	2 14 0
1 6	0 15 9	5 0	3 3 0
2 0	1 5 6	7 8	4 11 6
2 6	1 10 3	10 0	6 4 3
3 0	1 15 3	10 6	6 9 0
3 6	2 4 3	15 0	9 6 3
4 0	2 9 0	20 0	12 7 6

Notes.—The cost of a British Postal Order is liable to vary slightly owing to fluctuations of exchange. The rate of exchange in force can be ascertained from the Post Office.

3. British Postal Orders issued from any Indian Post Office are payable at any Money Order Office in the United Kingdom (including the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) and at Gibraltar and Constantinople.

4. The purchaser of a British Postal Order must, before parting with it, fill in the name of the person to whom the order is to be paid, and may fill in the name of the money Order Office (in the United Kingdom, &c.) at which the amount is to be paid. If the name of a Money Order Office is not entered by the purchaser, the order will be payable at any Money Order Office named by the payee.

5. The purchaser should keep a record of the number and date and name of the Office of Issue of the order, to facilitate enquiry if the order should be lost.

6. After a British Postal Order has once been paid, to whomsoever it is paid, the British Post Office will not be liable for any further claim.

7. If any erasure or alteration be made, or if the order is cut, defaced, or mutilated, payment may be refused.

8. After the expiration of three months from the last day of the month of issue, a British Postal Order will be payable only on payment by the payee of a commission equal to the amount of the original British poundage marked on the order.

SIMLA, 25th September 1884. } A. U. FANSHAWE,
Offg. Director General
of the Post Office of India.

POSTAL NOTICE

TELEGRAPHIC MONEY ORDERS.

With effect from 1st October 1884, Telegraphic Money Orders will be obtainable at all Money Order Offices.

2. A Telegraphic Money Order is an order granted by the Post Office for payment of a sum of money through the agency of the Post Office, the remittance being advised from one Post Office to another by telegraph, and payment being made at the payee's residence. Telegraphic Money Orders will be payable at any Money Order Office.

3. If there be no Government * Telegraph Office at the station of issue the order will be sent by post to the nearest Government Telegraph Office for transmission onwards by telegraph. If there be no Government Telegraph Office at the station of payment, the order will be sent by post from the nearest Government Telegraph Office.

4. The rates of commission on Telegraphic Money Orders are as follows:—

On sums not exceeding Rs. 25	Rs. A. P.
Rs. 25 but not exceeding Rs. 50	0 12
Rs. 50	1 2
Rs. 75	1 8
Rs. 100	1 14
Rs. 125	2 4

5. A uniform charge of Rs. 2 is made for the telegram advising the remittance, irrespective of the amount of the remittance, provided the amount does not exceed Rs. 600, payable to the same payee. These telegrams are sent "urgent."

6. The remitter may write on the coupon attached to the Money Order from any private message he desires to communicate to the payee. Such private message will be added to the telegram advising the remittance, and will be charged for at the rate of 2 annas a word. The remitter may also prepay a reply under the ordinary rules of the Telegraph Department.

7. An official acknowledgment by telegraph of payment of the remittance can be obtained by the remitter. The charge an acknowledgment is Re. 1

8. Payment of a Telegraphic Money Order will be made at the residence of the payee by the postman, immediately on receipt of the telegraphic advice by the Office of Payment. With the amount of the order a copy of the telegram will be delivered to the payee.

9. A copy of the detailed rules can be had on application at the Post Office.

SIMLA, 25 September 1884. } A. U. FANSHAWE
Offg. Director-General
of the Post Office of India.

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The most ancient and masterly Sankhya Philosophy of Maharsi Kapila Deva known as Sankhya Karika with the Bhaseya by Gouprada in Devnagri character, translated into English by H. T. Colebrooke and commented upon by Prof. H. H. Wilson with a Bengalee literal translation.

The above is a work of no ordinary merit and ought to be read by all, who would like to know the doctrines of Hindu Philosophy as propounded by the Great Rishis. The Bhaseya by Gouprada is not only the oldest but the best exposition of the Suttras ever given to the world by this school of Philosophers.

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The Agent and Chief Engineer Bengal and N. W. Railway Company is prepared to receive sealed tenders for the supply of 2000 tons best steam coal (1000 best Kurharballe and 1000 of best Seebpore.) Delivery to commence from 1st November 1884 and the whole quantity to be delivered by 15th November 1884.

Rates to include cost of delivery into Railway Wagons from the despatching station consigned. Patna City.—To the Store-keeper, B. and N. W. Railway Company, Bunkaghat. Tenders to be addressed to the Agent and Chief Engineers B. and N. W. (Railway Company Gorakhpur to reach by noon of the 12th current and covers to be superscribed, "Tenders for the supply of best Steam Coal."

The Agent does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.

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Store-keeper.

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Apiol Capsules	...	1	12
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Cod Liver Oil Capsules (Herrings)	...	1	0
Sandal Wood Oil Capsules (Herrings)	...	2	8
Ethereal Extract of Male Fern Capsules (Herrings)	...	1	12
Pure Pepsine Capsules (Herrings)	...	2	0
Pure Balsam Copaiba Capsules (Herrings)	...	1	8
Rhubarb & Jalap Capsules (Herrings)	...	1	0
Balsam Copaiba, Cube, Rhatany and Iron Capsules	...	1	8

NOTES.—All the above Capsules are made from the purest materials, enveloped in Gelatine, rendering them readily soluble, tasteless, easy to swallow, and a convenient form for taking disagreeable medicines. Their efficacy of action can invariably be relied on.

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R. HARDIE.
Secretary and Treasurer.

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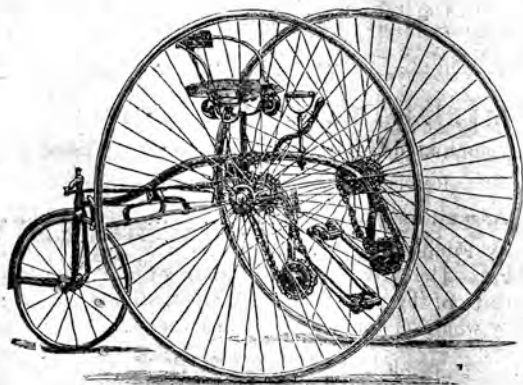
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Notice.

Probate of the last Will and Testament of the
Honorable Kristo Dass Pal, Rai Bahadur, C. I. E.
late a member of the Council of the Governor-General
of India for making Laws and Regulations deceased
has been granted by the High Court of Judicature at
Fort William in Bengal in its Testamentary and In-
testate Jurisdiction to Baboo Kader Nauth Dutt a
Deputy Collector of Calcutta and Baboo Radha Churn
Pal, the son of the deceased two of the Executors
named in the Will of the said deceased.
Calcutta, } **WATKINS, & Co.**
22 Sept. 1884. } Attorneys.

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Both should be competent to conduct any work in
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PERSONAL applications with testimonials should
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Examine the bottle and see it has the Seal, Label, and wrapper of Darlington & Co., and beware of imitations.

Mrs. A. Greenway writes from Umballa: "Please send me by return post 6 bottles of Darlington's Pain-Curer as I CANNOT DO WITHOUT IT. IT HAS BEEN OF GREAT USE TO MY FAMILY, SAVED ME."

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Board of Revenue, L. P. } J. KNOX ORD
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